

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2098

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2006

OUTSOURCING IT COLLECTION TO POST OFFICE

Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Soren Shri Shibu

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware of the problems being faced by the assesseees in filing their Income Tax Returns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government have any proposal to allow post offices in the country to accept Income Tax Returns;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which the proposal would come into effect?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE: (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b),(c),(d)&(e): Traditionally, the Income Tax Department has been making comprehensive arrangements in every city for receiving returns centrally in the local income-tax offices or some other suitable place. This centralised receipt of returns was causing inconvenience to large number of taxpayers, particularly senior citizens since they had to travel a large distance to reach the centralised receipt points. Further, they also had to wait in long queue. Therefore, the Government considered it appropriate to decentralise receipt of returns by allowing about 1900 post offices across the country to receive the returns from 26th July, 2006. The list of such post offices is available on websites www.incometaxindia.gov.in and www.indiapost.gov.in.